

Appl. No. 09/745,385

Reply to Final OA of February 10, 2004

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated February 10, 2004, for which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set for May, 14, 2004. Applicant appreciated the opportunity to discuss the patentability of this case over the cited references with the Examiner. During that conversation, the Examiner provided a new heretofore unofficial reference of U.S. patent application 6,219,763 to Klingman for Applicant to review. Applicant has reviewed Klingman and does not see any description, teaching, or suggestion in Klingman that would preclude patentability of this pending application. However, to give the Examiner the opportunity to examine this application in view of Klingman, Applicant hereby submits a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) of this patent application along with claim amendments that Applicant believes more particularly point out and claim the subject matter of the invention.

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

- Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments begin on page 18 of this paper.

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